



Performance Objectives  
And Instructional Cues

## OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION

### LESSON PLAN

#### INTRODUCTION

A. Course Title: Informants and Intelligence

Instructional Goals:

1. This course is designed to give the basic recruit information concerning informants and intelligence.
2. This course will enable the basic recruit to understand the complexities of informants and intelligence, as well as realizing that informants can be utilized and cultivated by patrol officers.

Instructional Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the students will be able to:

1. Define an informant.
2. Understand the different types of informant
3. Have an understanding of the techniques used to talk to citizens while on patrol.
4. Have an understanding of the sources of information available while on patrol.
5. Understand what is necessary for informant development and reliability.
6. Understand and identify "true" informant motives vs. "declared" motives.
7. Understand the key difference between a witness and informant
8. Understand the proper procedures for administrative control of an informant
9. Define intelligence
10. Understand the investigative role of intelligence

Performance Objectives And Instructional Cues	<b>OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION</b>
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Instructional Methods:

Class lecture with class participation and overheads

Estimated Time: 2 hrs

Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ Presentation Date \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: Debbie Pruitt, NMJC

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Revised \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

LO 1, Q1, OH1

**LESSON PLAN: Informants and Intelligence**

**I. Definition of Informant**

- A. Any non-law enforcement person, who by familiarity or close association with criminals, supplies regular or constant information about criminal activities to a police officer.

LO 2, Q2, OH2

**II. Types of Informants (Prospective Informants)**

**A. Occasional Informant**

1. No regular pattern of reporting
2. Will not provide sworn court testimony
3. Will not appear as a witness
4. Includes the following individuals:
  - a. Past Criminals
  - b. Criminal associates
  - c. Prostitutes
  - d. Addicts
  - e. Anonymous callers

**B. Arrested Informants**

1. Provide information to escape prosecution
2. Seek reduction/dismissal of charges
3. Information by negotiation
4. May be a one-time opportunity
5. May or may not testify in court
6. May become regular informant
7. Includes convicted prisoners

**C. Regular or Constant Informant**

1. May be member of criminal group

Performance Objectives And Instructional Cues	OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION
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LO 3, Q3, OH 3

2. Close associate of criminals
3. Most valuable type of informant
4. Many motives for supplying information:
  - a. Source of revenue
  - b. Eliminate competition
  - c. Personal vendetta
  - d. Others
- D. Special Category Informant
  1. Active participant beyond supplying information
  2. Actively assist law enforcement
  3. Penetrate organizations
  4. Utilized to set up drug buys
  5. Will testify in court
  6. May require police protection
  7. Possible relocation assistance
- III. **Techniques to talk to citizens while on patrol**
  - A. Talk to citizens during slow patrol periods
  - B. Elicit information during traffic stops
  - C. During security checks
  - D. Be tactful and accept information at face value
  - E. Express appreciation for information received
  - F. Don't belittle worthless information
  - G. Take great care to frame questions
  - H. If eliciting specific information already known, don't reveal how citizen information differs if it does.

**Performance Objectives  
And Instructional Cues**

**OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION**

- I. Avoid asking embarrassing questions or that pry into private affairs
- J. Avoid arguments.
- K. Maintain control of the interview, while being courteous.
- L. Keep the focus of what is being sought.
- M. Interview victims and witnesses of crimes as to particular incident you are working.
- N. Interview at locations where the citizens feel psychologically comfortable.
- O. Uncertainty about the officer's expectations and the novelty of the situation may tend to make the citizen apprehensive and guarded.
- P. If fear develops, the person may withhold information.
- Q. Place citizen at ease and establish rapport, while seeking to elicit information.
- R. Don't act rude, sarcastic, or antagonistic.
- S. The initial impression will dictate the remainder of the interview.
- T. Once the citizen becomes talkative, let him/her give a complete account with a minimum of interruptions.
- U. The officer must recognize and interpret symptoms indicating sensitivity to information.
- V. Silence on the part of the citizen may indicate uncertainty, confusion, or fear as to whether to share information with the officer.
- W. Ask questions that require an explanatory answer.
- X. A leading or suggestive question may also be appropriate to elicit specific information.
- Y. The conversation should always end in a courteous and friendly manner.

Performance Objectives And Instructional Cues	OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION
LO 4	<p>Z. Appreciation of what the citizen has done should be made known by thanking him/her.</p> <p>AA. Expressions of courtesy create a favorable impression and encourages further cooperation.</p> <p><b>IV. Sources of Information in Patrol Area</b></p> <p>A. Citizens in patrol area</p> <p>B. Business</p> <p>C. Church's</p> <p>D. Roll call</p> <p>E. Crime bulletins</p> <p>F. From other patrol officers</p> <p>G. Non-uniformed officers</p> <p>H. Patrol logs</p> <p>I. Graffiti</p> <p>J. Media</p> <p>K. Arrested individuals</p> <p>L. Confidential informants</p> <p>M. Prostitutes</p> <p>N. Drug users</p> <p>O. Any individual can be a source of information if the officer will just ask.</p>
LO 5, OH 4, Q4	<p><b>V. Informant Development &amp; Reliability</b></p> <p>A. Informant Development</p> <p>1. Officers must elicit trust of informant</p>

## OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION

Q5

LO6, OH 4, Q6

2. Must be fair with informants
3. Must be prepared to live up to promises
4. Be versatile, discreet, tactful
- B. Traits for successful Informant Developer
  1. Good reputation for ethical conduct
  2. Skillful interviewer
  3. Good motivator
  4. Familiar with areas of activity
  5. Familiar with people in these areas
  6. Knowledge of applicable laws
  7. Good interpersonal skills
    - a. Appreciates value of information
    - b. Able to ease informant inhibitions
- C. Establishing Informant Reliability
  1. Has been established as true, reliable, and correct with information in the past.
  2. Corroborate informant reliability
    - a. Additional information received from sources other than informant.
    - b. All informant information must be corroborated by additional information.
    - c. Information from other police departments
    - d. Untested informant cannot be utilized to develop probable cause.
    - e. Untested informant's reliability must be established under close scrutiny of officer.
- VI. Identification of "True" Informant motives vs. "Declared" motives.
  - A. Financial Gain
    1. Work for payments

## OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION

2. Many have underlying motives
  3. Usually a reliable source
  4. Quality of work keeps informant in business
  5. Be leery of poor quality of work
    - a. Sources scarce or dry up
    - b. Wants to keep source of income
    - c. Must constantly evaluate informant capabilities
    - d. Officer must still remain tactful, respectful
- B. Fear
1. Afraid of law enforcement
  2. Fear of criminals or associates
  3. Fear of going to jail
    - a. May provide direct evidence to avoid jail
    - b. May provide information only
  4. Officer must assure informant that everything possible is being done to protect him.
- C. Revenge
1. May have been previously harmed
  2. Disclosure of information to police
  3. Argument over a woman/man
  4. Improper respect from his/her group
  5. Obtain as much information as possible
  6. May be only a one time informant
  7. Officer must seek true informant motivation
- D. Gratitude
1. Cooperation from appreciation of officer
  2. For showing compassion and concern



## OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION

3. Helped informant with a problem
  - a. Legal problem
  - b. Family problem
4. Found informant employment
5. Rehabilitation and/or drug treatment
6. Gratitude for previous help
7. May rely on officer for everything
8. Informant may try to use officer

E. Self Serving

1. Cutting a deal
2. Eliminating competition

LO 7, OH 5, Q7

### VII. Key Differences of Witness and Informant

- A. Witnesses are informants in the strictest sense.
- B. A witness generally has no vested interest in the case.
- C. A witness also has no vested interest, and an informant's main motivation is to make money.
- D. Witness statement can be recorded and/or kept on file.
- E. Informants may have a vested interest in the outcome of an investigation.
- F. [REDACTED]
- G. Officer must maintain complete control over informants, usually little to no control required for a witness.
- H. A witness may be an ordinary citizen, and many confidential informants are members of a particular drug or criminal subculture.

LO 8, OH 6, Q8

**VIII. Proper Procedures for Administrative Control of Informants**

- A. Check history and arrest record of informant.
- B. Check track record of informant.
  - 1. Past performance and work record.
  - 2. Reliability with other officers in your department.

C.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

Performance Objectives And Instructional Cues	OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION
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## OUTLINE AND PRESENTATION

LO 9, OH 7, Q9

Q10

### IX. Investigative Roles of Intelligence

#### A. Definition of Intelligence

1. Information which forewarns of activities likely to occur.
2. Purpose is to provide user with knowledge of events likely to happen.
3. The collection, processing and dissemination of information.
4. The end product of an analytical process which collects and assess information about crimes, criminal enterprises, for the purpose of making judgements and inferences about community conditions, potential problems, and criminal activity.

#### B. Role of Intelligence

1. Collation of collected information and the orderly arrangement of data to establish relationships of unconnected data.
  - a. Individuals involved or suspected of having attempted, threatened, planned or participated in criminal acts.
  - b. Associates of individuals suspected to be involved in a criminal act.
  - c. Organizations and businesses involved, controlled, or operated for criminal utilization.
  - d. Geographic locations common to the occurrence of criminal activity.
2. Timely distribution of intelligence information
  - a. Reports and assessments
  - b. Briefings and bulletins
  - c. Alerts and forecasts